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"These spots, our National Parks, have been set aside by the American Government to be maintained untouched by the inroads of modern civilization."

—Hubert Work, Secretary of the Interior.



From a Drawing by Dean Babcock

BULLETIN

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NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

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HARDING AND WORK TO PROTECT NATIONAL PARKS

Policy of the Administration Announced in a Ringing Address at the Opening of Yellowstone National Park

STRONG hands are held out to our endangered National Parks. The three years' cry of the people for the safeguarding of an old and treasured national policy has reached the ears of an Administration willing to make complete conservation its public policy. The announcement that President Harding would stand uncompromisingly for the protection of our National Parks System from the commercial invasion of any part of it was made at the annual opening at Yellowstone National Park on June 20.

The speaker, Dr. John Wesley Hill, officially represented President Harding and Secretary Work. His address bore the marks of thoughtful preparation and his statement of principle, so far as it went, was careful and precise.

The Administration is pledged to the limit to the inviolability of the National Parks System from industrial uses of every kind.

The Administration's Position Incomplete

Dr. Hill did not state that the President would also defend the System's equally essential and also endangered standard of scenic magnificence by opposing the admission of areas of minor quality, but we are willing to believe this an unintentional omission. In fact, of the two qualities which are the component elements of this incomparable American possession, namely consistent magnificence and complete conservation, the former is by far the more conspicuous. It is that which makes American National Parks famous the world around. The Administration will scarcely neglect the greater quality while defending the lesser.

We believe that President Harding's purpose is to defend our National Parks System to the full. We have always believed it. There are only two kinds of minds on this subject.

The System's Scenic Standard

Nevertheless, with the System threatened by an invasion of minor gift parks whose admission will dilute the significance of national parkhood at home and destroy the efficiency of the trade mark now becoming so famous abroad, the people must examine with great care every bill in the next Congress which offers a new National Park.

"If rights are granted to one claimant," declared Dr. Hill of the industrialists, "others must follow, so a precedent must not be established. It would inevitably ruin the entire National Parks System." Which is equally true of any offering of a sub-standard area to the government in exchange for the privilege of possessing a National Park at home. If one such privilege is granted, every Congressional District in

the nation inevitably will demand some day its own "national park," and the glory of the System will swiftly depart.

We quote from Dr. Hill's eloquent address:

An Inviolable Heritage

"National Parks are our richest patrimony. They constitute a heritage which must be preserved inviolate by the American people. The spouting geyser basins and marvelous hot springs of Yellowstone, the splendor of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, the silver sheen of the fall of Yosemite, the ice marvels of the Montana glaciers, the blue wonder of Crater Lake, the towering temples amid the big trees of the Sierra, are magnificent indeed, but how long would they continue unmarred and unharmed, the sacred possession of the people, if the protecting arm of the Federal Government were withdrawn from them?

"Yellowstone history is replete with crises where the friends of the park and the park idea have had to fight with a heroism worthy its explorers and discoverers to retain it intact against the bold and presumptuous claim of the advocate of special privilege, determined to commercialize this land of wonder, to build railroads through it, tunnel its mountains, dam its lakes and streams, and secure strangle-hold monopolies with small compensation to the government and total loss to the people.

"Let us look this question squarely in the face. Commercialism is the peril of our national parks system. The almighty dollar, declared by Washington Irving to be the American God, is the obtruding deity. The struggle is between the lower and the higher, the sordid and the ideal.

For Our Children and Our Children's Children

"We love these vast glorified spaces, these patches and nooks and corners, these areas of quiet beauty and restful atmosphere, and in loving them we want our children and our children's children to know them and enjoy them as we do.

"Are unborn generations to be denied this boon? This battle of conservation is not for ourselves, but for the millions to come. Henry Clay, stepping from his stage upon the crest of the Alleghenies, fell upon his knees, and, pressing his ear to the ground, exclaimed: 'I am listening for the footsteps of coming millions.' The preservation of these parks from the blight and curse of commercialism is for the marching armies of the unborn.

"Gradually the open spaces are being settled. Ranches will be divided into smaller farms, and these in turn will be parcelled into still smaller ones to meet the growing need of

an expanding nation. One hundred years from now our population will exceed two hundred millions.

"Are we to relinquish even one square mile of the choicest exhibits of our great national recreational areas without considering their inestimable value to the countless generations yet to come? Under the stress of increasingly difficult economic conditions, will they not be of infinitely more value in fifty or one hundred years from now than they are even in the present period of appreciative enthusiastic approbation by the people of the country as a whole?

The President's Position

"Regardless of all facts and figures, arguments, appeals and threats, therefore, any plan however meritorious on its face for the commercial exploitation of parks, must by the very nature of its aims and purposes be immediately doomed to failure.

"Good projects, bad projects, indifferent projects, all must face the same fate, for it is at last the established policy of the Government that our national parks must and shall forever be maintained in absolute, unimpaired form, not only for the present, but for all time to come, a policy which has the unqualified support of the great American now in the White House, whose sole ambition is to administer the government without fear or favor in behalf of the peace and prosperity, happiness and contentment of the entire people of this country.

The Administration's Fixed Policy.

"This is the fixed policy of the Administration, and I can assure you it will not be modified. It will not be swerved a hair's breadth by any influence, financial, political or otherwise. If rights are granted to one claimant, others must follow; so a precedent must not be established. It would inevitably ruin the entire National Parks System. The camel long ago pushed its nose under the tent at Niagara, and he has at least his shoulders inside. If we would escape the tragedy of Niagara, we must beware of its subtle beginnings.

"The time is at hand for action. This is the cause of the people. They must resist every insidious, insinuating advance of commercialism. They must not be alarmed by the dissatisfied shout. Congress is deafened with the noise of a few clamoring irrigationists. Hearing little opposition, it concludes that the sentiment of the country is not for national parks. The delusion must be shattered."

Attitude of Former Administrations

Theodore Roosevelt, the first President to give expression to the ideals of American nature conservation, was silent on the question of National Parks preservation because in his day it was not a question. It had been an unopposed Governmental policy for many years. No hint had then developed of the coming struggle to debase the conservation and the scenic standards of our National Parks System.

President Taft expressed himself an enthusiastic believer in National Parks, but the question of their conservation did not become an issue during his administration.

Woodrow Wilson signed the Hetch Hetchy bill in the first December of his first term. It gave San Francisco a city water supply reservoir in Yosemite National Park which was advocated by his first Secretary of the Interior, Franklin K. Lane, a San Franciscan. The fight against this reservoir did not disclose its water power purpose; that developed later.

In his second term, President Wilson reversed his attitude on National Park conservation, becoming the first president to advocate it officially. The Water Power bill, passed by both houses, was before him for signature the day before the adjournment of the Sixty-seventh Congress. Secretary of the Interior John Barton Payne, Mr. Lane's successor, discovered that this bill included National Parks and hurried to

the White House for conference. It was he who arranged with Senator Jones in whose committee the bill originated that an amendment should be introduced into the next Congress to remove National Parks from its authority.

President Wilson withheld signature to the Water Power bill beyond the statutory limit until this agreement was reached, an extraordinary expression of Administration policy; and Secretary Payne in the next Congress personally appeared before Congressional Committees in furtherance of the amendment and in opposition to the Walsh bill.

President Harding is the first President to announce publicly a general Administration policy of absolute, uncompromising conservation for the National Parks System and every one of its component units.

The People's Opportunity

This stand has the utmost importance to the nation. It offers the people their opportunity to move forward, to clean the System of its accumulations of dross, to establish its definitions and principles soundly in law.

The new Administration policy will not prevent Senator Walsh introducing his third bill to dam Yellowstone Lake in case he thinks doing so will advance his political fortunes at home. Neither will it prevent the Montana-Alberta irrigationists from introducing their expected bill to back an irrigation reservoir ten miles into Glacier National Park. They and others will introduce bills into Congress and fight hard for their passage.

But it will be harder going with the Administration against them—any administration. National Parks conservation is in no sense a partisan cause. It is dear to the hearts of the vast majority of thinking Americans of all parties in and out of Congress—when they stop to think.

The preservation of the consistent grandeur and the native quality of our National Parks System is the natural policy of—well, let us call it the American Party.

THE BALANCE OF ANIMAL LIFE

During last winter patrolling rangers killed 221 coyotes and 8 wolves in Yellowstone National Park. This was done, of course, for the protection of the animals upon which these skulking beasts prey.

To the objection not infrequently made that killing predatory animals destroys the balance of nature, the answer is made that the Great Slaughter of the last two generations and the conditions of civilization today have already destroyed it; and that, because of their nocturnal habits and skill in hiding from man, predatory animals escape the penalty of civilization in far greater degree than herbivorous animals.

The Superintendent reports his belief that not more than three or four mountain lions remain in Yellowstone.

ROAD-BUILDING IN GLACIER

Work is progressing on the Transmountain Road in Glacier National Park. A beginning will be made this year on the east side at St. Mary Chalet on the Blackfeet Highway. Crossing the St. Mary River on a ninety-foot span bridge, the road will skirt the north shore of St. Mary Lake toward Going-to-the-Sun Chalet. This section will cost \$85,000.

YELLOWSTONE ANIMALS GIVEN AWAY

In pursuance of the authority recently granted by Congress, three bears, eleven elk and seven buffalo were captured in Yellowstone National Park last year and presented to zoos and public parks.

PLAN TO BACK RESERVOIR TEN MILES INTO GLACIER

Beautiful St. Mary Lake, one of the Choicest Masterpieces of American Scenery, Chosen for Ruthless Sacrifice

NEWS reaches us that the next bill endangering the National Policy of Complete Conservation for our National Parks System will be directed against St. Mary Lake in Glacier National Park. Plans contemplate raising the water level more than forty feet, which will destroy the lake's exquisitely forested borders, cause the precipitous mountains on the south side to appear to jump shoreless from the water, and submerge the fine forest at the head of the lake.

When the water is drawn low in the late summer, a ribbon of muck like that which borders Jackson Lake in August will be drawn across one of the most sensational views in the world of scenery. St. Mary Lake is counted by many the most beautiful in America. Certainly it is the most striking. Its photographs are familiar the world around.

The Reservoir to be Backed In

There are two St. Mary Lakes, one inside the boundaries of Glacier National Park and the other just outside in the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. They are connected by a short stretch of shallow river. The bill will call for damming the lower lake, which lies outside the National Park, so that on its face it will not appear to be a park invasion. But the purpose and effect of the dam will be to throw the two lakes into one long reservoir, the upper part of which will reach ten miles westward through the park.

This is by no means a new scheme. A year and a half ago its promoters tried to hide behind the International Joint Commission, which is the body organized to carry out the provisions of our boundary treaty with Canada. There were hearings in Montana and Alberta, and the Commission, knowing nothing of the National policy which protects our parks, was persuaded to recommend to the Governments of both nations that this dam be built.

The Canadian Commissioners were especially interested because, under the treaty of 1909, three quarters of the water would go to Canada. The St. Mary River is tributary to the Milk River Irrigation Project, whose waters flow northward, describe a wide loop in Canada and return to Montana. In consideration of advantages to this country elsewhere, the treaty permits Canadian irrigationists to take three quarters of the irrigable water out of the river where it describes this loop.

Neither Government Acts

No wonder the Canadians, ignorant of our National policy, were glad to recommend this project. The wonder is that the Montana irrigationists for a mere quarter of the profit were willing that Glacier National Park should be sacrificed and the precedent established for despoiling the entire National Parks System.

The recommendation of the International Joint Commission came to nothing because action could only come through the two governments, and neither Government, when we laid the facts before both, was willing to act upon it.

While the matter was under discussion Senator Walsh, in a signed newspaper statement favoring this invasion of Glacier, expressed doubt whether such a bill could pass Congress. Surely, from the hard fate of his Yellowstone bill, he had the best of reasons to doubt. Nevertheless, the attempt is to be made.

The country will await with deep interest the appearance of this bill in Congress. Wise by experience, we predict that

it will not mention Glacier National Park, and that it will not be referred to the Public Lands Committee.

Scheming to Get By

Of course the advocates of this new invasion are fully alive to their disadvantage growing out of the fact that three quarters of the impounded Glacier Park water will be used in another country. That fact alone would beat the bill in Congress. So they have devised a way to get around this uncomfortable fact, which apparently they think will work. We don't; but it is a most interesting plan, involving what they call an "exchange of water."

The other water to be "exchanged" also rises in Glacier National Park and forms Waterton Lake in the extreme north of the park. Half of the lake is in Glacier, and half in the Waterton Lakes Park in Canada. All this water flows north into Canada; none of it can be diverted into this country because of lofty mountain barriers on either side.

The St. Mary Lake dam promoters plan the damming of Waterton Lake on the Canadian side and have arranged with Canadian irrigationists to accept all the Waterton Lake water in lieu of their share of the St. Mary Lake water. Under such an agreement the St. Mary Lake dam bill can go before Congress freed from the fatal argument that it is chiefly for Canadian use.

This is a most ingenious plan. The only little trouble with it is that it won't work. To us in these enlightened times, it reads like the dream of visionaries, but those behind it are hard-headed, practical, successful business men and politicians in Montana and Alberta. None can be blinder at times than business men and politicians; some in Montana do not know even yet that the people have waked up.

Waterton Lake Project an Old One

This Waterton Lake project is several years old. It was started in Canada and pushed with great vigor. It proposed a dam on the Canadian side which would raise the water level on our Glacier National Park side sixty feet.

The damage to Glacier National Park would be appalling. Forests would be flooded, trails obliterated, and the hotel site which is the key of future park development submerged fifty feet.

Nevertheless the Alberta irrigationists shouted for their dam till they got Canadians alarmed for the safety of their own Waterton Lakes Park. The movement in Canada to organize the people for the defense of their own national parks started right there two years ago.

The dam project made little headway after the first excitement, and its promotion apparently subsided, but it did not die. The scheme has flared briefly once or twice since.

Last fall the Waterton Lake promoters in Canada and the St. Mary Lake promoters in Montana got quietly together and arranged the combination plan which we now disclose.

Be Ready but Don't Worry

Let us be watchful and ready, but there is no reason to worry. It is the kind of scheme that could have slipped through in both countries a few years ago, but not now.

Advised promptly of the facts, National Park defenders in both nations have long been on the job. On this side of the boundary, the people are well organized veterans. On the other side of the boundary they are now organizing. It will not be long before both American peoples will fight side by side to protect their common heritage.

AN ALL NORTH AMERICAN NATIONAL PARKS SYSTEM

The American Association for the Advancement of Science Asks Canada and the United States to Administer Their Park Systems as One

THE National Parks of North America! That is the stirring conception embodied in a resolution by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Canada and the United States each has its own National Parks System, which it conducts separately according to different standards.

The new conception is that these two systems are essentially one; that together they represent, geologically and biologically, not two countries, but a continent; that, from the scientific and educational point of view, the two constitute one great museum system of North American land forms and wild life under primitive conditions.

Therefore, these scientific men advise, let these two nations get together as wardens, each of its own section of this continental exposition, and conserve, develop and conduct both according to a common plan under laws in common.

It does not require a scientist or an educator to grasp the bigness and the beauty of this conception. It is one which will appeal to the imagination of the people of both nations.

Here is the resolution:

"Unique Continental Exposition"

Whereas, by repeated action by Congress for more than half a century, widely approved by scientific and other societies and by the public generally, the National Parks of the United States have been completely conserved from industrial uses so as to constitute a system of National Museums of Native America, and

Whereas, one of the national parks of Canada is similarly completely conserved, and

Whereas, the combined National Parks Systems of both countries, covering geological, biological and geographical examples from the Alaskan Range, through the Canadian Rockies, to the Grand Canyon of Arizona, if preserved untouched will constitute a unique Continental Exposition of inestimable value to science and to the popular education of future generations; and

Whereas, at the option of a single official of the Government, several of the national parks in the United States are nevertheless open to mining and grazing, while the control of water power in future parks has recently been surrendered to the Water Power Commission; and all but one of the national parks in Canada are similarly open to certain economic or commercial uses; and

Whereas, every interference with their natural condition will destroy the usefulness of these areas to science and education; and

Whereas, this generation can pass on to future generations no greater gift than these parks in their primitive condition; therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the American Association for the Advancement of Science earnestly requests the people and the Congress of the United States and the people and the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada to secure such amendments of existing law and the enactment of such new laws as will give to all units in the international parks system complete conservation alike, and will safeguard them against every industrial use either under private or public control at least until careful study shall justify the elimination of any part from park classification.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science is much the largest and the most progressive scientific organization in the world. It is international; its 12,000 members represent both the United States and Canada. Dr. Charles D. Walcott, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, was elected its President last December, succeeding Dr. J. Playfair McMurrich of Toronto University.

Wide Popular Support

The publication of the resolution created a deep impression in both countries. It set people thinking—which was its object. In the United States it called attention specially to the museum function which our National Parks share importantly with their recreational function. In Canada, it had the effect of suddenly concentrating a different kind of attention upon scenic reservations which most persons had conceived as little besides pleasure grounds.

One striking evidence of its popular appeal was the passage in May of the following resolution by the National Council of our General Federation of Women's Clubs:

Whereas, the complete conservation of our national park system from industrial uses is the policy of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, to the end that these unexcelled areas of natural scenic beauty and scientific interest may benefit future generations in science and popular education, and

Whereas, the American Association for the Advancement of Science now urges an international system of these museums of the original American wilderness in order to preserve examples of the primitive in nature from the Arctic Ocean to the Gulf of Mexico, making a continental scientific laboratory and popular Educational Exhibit covering both Canada and the United States; therefore,

Be It Resolved, that the General Federation of Women's Clubs urge the enactment of such laws as will give to all units in the international parks system complete conservation alike and will safeguard such parks against every commercial use.

Range and Variety of the Combined System

The two national park systems which the scientists ask these nations to develop and administer together extend from Alaska nearly to the Gulf of Mexico, with two park units on the Atlantic Coast and one in the Hawaiian Islands. The United States System contains nineteen national parks and forty-four national monuments. The Canadian system has seven fine national parks so far, the most celebrated of which is the one containing famous Lake Louise.

The mountain ranges illustrated in the international museum system includes the Alaska Range, the Canadian Rockies, the Selkirk Range, the Cascade Range, the Sierra, and the American Rockies.

The volcanic exhibit runs the gamut from the Lake of Everlasting Fire in the Hawaiian Islands to a number of dead volcanoes, and includes world-celebrated Mount Katmai with its Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes, living Mount Lassen, collapsed Mount Mazama holding Crater Lake in its bowl, ice-clad Mount Rainier, and Yellowstone's geysers and tiers of buried forests.

No less distinguished are its sedimentary parks, including Canada's incomparable Rocky Mountain exhibit and colorful Glacier; nor its famous desert parks, Zion of the Utah plateaus and Grand Canyon.

All of the granite exhibits are in the United States. The Canadian parks are practically all sedimentary, and include mountain scenery of extraordinary and often startling magnificence, and a numberless display of glaciers.

Looking Ahead

The accompanying map will show the distribution of the parks in the combined system. It will be noted that Canada has several national parks in the east.

Peering into the future, it will not seem necessary to extend our own system greatly to secure a balanced representation of North American landscape and wild life. Several national parks in the Appalachians, one in northern New Mexico, one of the great southern swamps, an example of the Everglades, and a park among the headwaters of Mississippi probably would suffice.

In Canada the opportunity is greater. Certainly examples of her great rivers, lakes and mighty forests, a park on Hudson Bay and one or more in the far north seem essential to this alluring conception of the scientific mind.

Popular Organization in Canada

Meantime, the increasing attacks on Canadian park conservation are bringing about, as with us, popular organization for defense.



THE NATIONAL PARKS OF NORTH AMERICA

SIERRA CLUB MOVES FOR ROOSEVELT-SEQUOIA BILL

*The Open Grassy Southern Part of the Present Sequoia Park Necessary for
Wintering of Countless Deer*

THE Sierra Club again has taken the Roosevelt-Sequoia National Park initiative. It has addressed the following letter to the National Park Service and the Forest Service:

"Pursuant to action taken at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club on May 5th, I am directed to address this letter to you in behalf of the Club.

"The question of the proposed extension of the existing Sequoia National Park will come before the next Congress and it will be important at that time for the Forest Service and the Park Service to agree upon boundaries for the enlarged park. Practically all of these differences of opinion have been settled in the past and the only remaining problems relate to the elimination of the three southerly townships of the existing parks.

"Without receding from its previous attitude that it is far more important to include within the park the tremendously important and magnificent scenery found on the main Kings and Kern Rivers than to retain within the existing park the three townships in question, and reiterating our complete faith in the integrity and sincerity of both the Park Service and the Forest Service and its officials in their stand on the question, and, further, recognizing the fact that the great Sequoia within these three townships even if eliminated from the park would be adequately protected from destruction by the Forest Service, nevertheless the Sierra Club urges one factor in the situation which it believes merits a reconsideration of the entire problem.

Only Way to Protect the Deer

"We feel that the retention of these three townships within the park is a matter of great importance, by reason of the fact that large numbers of deer and other game, which live in the higher regions of the park during the summer time, make these three townships their winter home.

"At the time that the question of eliminating these three townships was discussed, this matter was brought up and as an answer to this objection that the game would be without protection in the winter time, it was suggested that a game refuge, either State or Federal, might be established. The present session of the State Legislature is about to terminate and we find it impossible to secure State protection for this game, even if a State refuge embracing what is practically all Federal public domain, would be effective. To get a special bill through Congress would be burdensome and an unnecessary duplication of effort.

"We, therefore, respectfully suggest that these three townships be retained within the proposed enlarged boundaries in order to serve the major purpose of affording adequate protection to the large numbers of deer and other game animals which make these townships their winter residence.

"Trusting that you will give this matter favorable consideration in the drafting of the proposed bill to be submitted to the next Congress, we remain, etc."

Park Making a Series of Compromises

Making a National Park is a long and dreary series of compromises and experiments. Various commercial interests and various public-spirited interests instantly rush in to alter proposed boundaries. Each demands this area eliminated or that added. No two agree.

The park makers must listen to all and compromise if they would have their park, for all must be reasonably satisfied before a bill can pass Congress. There can be no riding down an honest objector, be his motives commercial or public-spirited, for, provided his plea has strength and reason, Congress will pigeon-hole the bill. "These are your troubles,

not ours," it says to the park makers. "Bring us what the people want and we'll pass it."

It took thirty-three years to get Grand Canyon made a National Park. Its final boundaries differ wholly from those originally planned, and its size is little more than half. Rocky Mountain National Park was cut in two before a bill was passed eleven years after the fight began.

The Barbour bill represented one of these stages in national park making. Those three townships may be restored in the next bill and an area many times more important cut out. The final boundaries may altogether differ from any yet proposed.

All we surely know is that boundary making is progressing with normal discord, and that some day we shall possess one of the grandest National Parks that the world can produce.

Here's to the Sierra Club, which never yet has failed in principle and essential wisdom, or dodged an honest fight! We were with it on the Barbour bill, and we're with it now!

END OF THE ANTELOPE NEAR

The estimate of the remnants of the American antelope which the Biological Survey made up with such care last summer will never be published because recent reports from several of the bands indicate alarming decreases during the intervening winter, in one instance fifty per cent. The decline of the species is now very rapid.

An altogether new census will be made this summer and the results will be published officially as early in the autumn as possible. The Biological Survey has been asked to call a conference in Washington in the fall of those especially interested in perpetuating the swiftest, the most graceful and the most beautiful of American wild animals.

At this Conference reports should be made of the various attempts during the last several years to solve the problem of perpetuating the antelope and the plans contemplated. The hope is to develop a policy and a program behind which we can gather all helpful influences.

Antelopes are wanderers and have not prospered in fenced enclosures. They are the easy prey of predatory animals in winter, when snow robs them of their one defense, their speed. Antelope are now hunted by automobile and are constantly being killed by unscrupulous hunters.

Our band in Yellowstone National Park suffered a loss of only five animals during the past winter and now numbers 218 by actual count.

The recent history of this band throws valuable light on the question of their preservation. In 1914 four miles of wire fence were built along the park boundary west from Gardiner because hunters sniped them in large numbers when they crossed the line in winter. With that fence began the swift decline of the band.

Winter before last the fence was opened to permit passage and two state game wardens patrolled the boundary to prevent shooting. That winter the antelope, again crossing the park boundary in search of food, suffered far less than when confined to the park, and last winter under the same conditions the loss was so slight that the fence may be removed altogether.

IN COMPLIMENT TO MR. SLEMP

In the rush and confusion of the closing days of Congress we failed to note that, on February 27, the Public Lands Committee reported the Appalachia bill for Representative Slem, thus giving him a formal victory for the last bill of his long career in the House.

STANDARDS FOR NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS

Their Need Stressed by Dr. Edgar L. Hewitt in Letter Concerning National Parks Situation in New Mexico

THE creation of a National Park of great value to the System is the occasion of the following illuminating letter from Dr. Edgar L. Hewitt, Director of the School of American Research at Santa Fe, New Mexico. For nearly a quarter century efforts have succeeded each other to give the Pajarito region, west of Santa Fe, including the present Bandelier National Monument, a place in the National Parks System.

We call special attention to Dr. Hewitt's insistence upon national standards for both National Parks and National Monuments, and his designation of the National Parks Service as the expert authority upon the national policy.

He writes, under date of June 15:

"Sometime ago you were kind enough to request my views on the national park situation in New Mexico. I should have answered much earlier, but too many pressing duties have intervened.

History of the Pajarito Proposal

"It gives me great pleasure to tell you exactly what my views are, for I find that they have been much misrepresented.

"Twenty odd years ago, I favored a plan sponsored by the late congressman, John F. Lacey of Iowa. He personally investigated the situation in the southwest and one time thought of urging the establishment of two archaeological national parks, namely, the Mesa Verde and the Pajarito. He decided to withdraw the latter for the reason that Congress could not be induced to establish two national parks based mainly upon their archaeological attractions, and of the two he favored the Mesa Verde as superior in both its scenic and prehistoric features. His judgment in this was correct.

"As the next best thing to help our situation in New Mexico, he proposed and successfully carried through the plan for national monuments of which we have availed ourselves in a good many instances.

"A bill introduced some years ago by Senator Catron proposing to create the 'National Park of the Cliff Cities,' was thoroughly objectionable and was, as you know, opposed by me. The reasons for my opposition were set forth in a pamphlet on the subject published as a paper of the School of American Research, of which I think you have copies. I believe that my objections were sustained by practically all who investigated the problem.

Careful Investigation before Endorsement

"There have been some attempts made to revive the Catron bill and it has been claimed that most of the objectionable features of the original measure have been removed. The later bills have never got far enough to warrant any special attention. I am not well informed as to their details and, therefore, have not expressed myself concerning them.

"I shall be very glad to consider with you any measures of this kind that may come up in the future, for it is a great satisfaction to know that there is an organization such as the one you represent, that is insisting upon the careful investigation of a national park proposition before endorsing it.

"Personally, with reference to proposed parks in New Mexico or any other part of the country, I have only one or two convictions in which I find myself quite immovable.

The National, Never the Local, Basis

"One is that these are not matters to be determined on a basis of local advantage. They must be considered entirely from the national point of view.

"My second conviction is simply a corollary of the first. I think I have expressed it to you personally and I am a perfectly willing to be quoted on the question whenever you think it desirable.

"We have a National Parks Service in our Department of the Interior and it must have a policy for national park development embracing the entire country. It must, therefore, have experts in its service who could be sent out to make thorough investigation on the ground of every national park proposal.

"If Director Mather, or Assistant Director Cammerer, or Superintendent Albright should make a personal investigation of an area proposed for park legislation in the West and make a favorable report to Congress on his survey, the recommendation would receive my unqualified support. Nothing of this kind has been done with reference to any of the proposed park areas in New Mexico.

National Standards for National Monuments

"I hold the same view with reference to the establishment of national monuments. The importance of these has never been recognized by the country at large, nor, as it seems to me, by the government departments having supervision over them.

"National monuments have been created upon local representations without proper investigation. The national monument law has been in operation seventeen years and there does not yet seem to be any coordinate procedure among the three departments. The Inter-departmental Regulations are obsolete and never were adequate. There was a long discussion of this during President Roosevelt's administration and the conference committee prepared a revision of the regulations that was agreed to by Secretaries Taft and Garfield. Secretary Wilson dissented and defeated the revision.

"No standard has been agreed upon as to what may properly be considered for national monuments and very little attention is paid to most of them after being established.

"It seems to me that this matter of establishing some kind of standards for national parks and national monuments should be considered either by the National Parks Association, or better still, by conference between the three departments, Interior, Agriculture and War, with those who know and are interested in the conditions."

The Celebrated "Rito"

The Pajarito country of Dr. Hewitt's letter is better known in New Mexico under the name of the Rito de la Frijoles, the gorge in the Sierra de los Valles in whose soft volcanic cliffs prehistoric people hollowed dwellings in tiers or stories, as in modern flat houses. Later on, large pueblos were built on the cliff tops. A clear mountain stream, the rito of the Spaniards, flows down the valley.

For many miles around occur ruins of unusual importance, and there are, besides, valuable records of Indian civilization within history.

The country is beautiful and romantic to a high degree, and is famous in New Mexico and neighboring states through the writings of Adela C. Holmquist and others of regional fame. It has been celebrated nationally for many years. Thousands visit it.

The range of national park choice here is wide, and Dr. Hewitt is correct in his insistence that the judgment of the nation's expert bureau must be applied before proper inclusions and exclusions can be determined. There are high altitude lands of scenic magnificence and geologic significance in private ownership which should be acquired if the national park is to realize the full possibilities of the region.

National Park making requires as much special knowledge, experience and trained skill as building great hospitals or designing reclamation projects.

NATIONAL MONUMENTS AT A GLANCE

National Monuments are created by Presidential proclamation to conserve objects and areas of historic or scientific importance. They are usually, but not necessarily, small. They total 44, of which 28 are administered by the Interior Department, 13 by the Agricultural Department, and 3 by the War Department.

Notwithstanding that no standards have been established, nor expert authority created to pass upon qualifications, this haphazard system so far remains remarkably meritorious. It includes many distinguished ruins of prehistoric civilization and the Spanish occupation, while some of the geologic examples are most remarkable. The Rainbow Bridge is one of the world's most imposing spectacles.

National Monuments should not be confused with the War Department's fine system of National Military Parks commemorating battles. Carelessness has classified Lincoln's Birthplace as a National Military Park and the Big Hole Battlefield as a National Monument.

Title	Location	Date	Area in Acres	Characteristics	Administration
Devils Tower	Wyoming	1906	1,152	Basaltic core of ancient volcano rising 1,200 feet from level plain	Interior
Monteuma Castle	Arizona	1906	160	Large prehistoric cliff dwelling in niche in verticle rock	Interior
El Morro	New Mexico	1906	240	Castle-shaped rock on which early Spanish explorers carved inscriptions	Interior
Petrified Forest	Arizona	1906	25,625	Accumulations of highly colored petrified tree trunks	Interior
Chaco Canyon	New Mexico	1907	20,625	Prehistoric cliff dwellings and communal houses	Interior
Gila Cliff Dwellings	New Mexico	1907	160	Prehistoric cliff dwellings near Roosevelt Dam	Agriculture
Tonto	Arizona	1907	640	Prehistoric cliff dwellings	Agriculture
Muir Woods	California	1908	428	Fine grove of coast redwoods near San Francisco, the gift of William Kent	Interior
Pinnacles	California	1908	2,642	Spire-like rocks, 600 to 1,000 feet high; also caves	Interior
Jewel Cave	South Dakota	1908	1,280	Limestone cave of great beauty; richly colored formations	Agriculture
Natural Bridges	Utah	1908	2,740	Three rock bridges of enormous size. Fine erosional examples	Interior
Lewis and Clark Cavern	Montana	1908	160	Limestone cave on route of Lewis and Clark expedition	Interior
Tumacacori	Arizona	1908	10	Ruin of Franciscan Mission of Seventeenth Century	Interior
Wheeler	Colorado	1908	300	Fantastically eroded volcanic area where Wheeler exploring party failed	Agriculture
Mount Olympus	Washington	1909	299,370	Lofty mountain region, home of the Olympus elk	Agriculture
Navajo	Arizona	1909	360	Prehistoric cliff dwellings in good preservation	Interior
Oregon Caves	Oregon	1909	480	Large limestone caves of unknown extent	Agriculture
Shoshone Cavern	Wyoming	1909	210	Limestone cave near Cody entrance to Yellowstone	Interior
Gran Quivira	New Mexico	1909	560	Ruins of early Spanish Mission; historical interest	Interior
Sitka	Alaska	1909	57	Scene of massacre of Russians by Indians. Totem poles	Interior
Rainbow Bridge	Utah	1910	160	One of the most majestic spectacles in the world. Marvellous example of erosion	Interior
Big Hole Battle Field	Montana	1910	5	Where Nez Perces Indians were defeated in 1877	War
Colorado	Colorado	1911	13,883	Remarkable examples of erosion. Lofty monoliths	Interior
Devil Postpile	California	1911	800	Spectacular mass of basaltic columns	Agriculture
Cabrillo	California	1913	1	Headland where Pacific Coast was first sighted; 1542	War
Papago Saguaro	Arizona	1914	1,940	Illustrating varied desert flora	Interior
Dinosaur	Utah	1915	80	Extraordinary deposits of fossil animal life	Interior
Walnut Canyon	Arizona	1915	960	Many prehistoric cliff dwellings	Agriculture
Bandelier	New Mexico	1916	22,075	Cliff dwellings, hollowed in soft volcanic rock—"the first apartment house"; many pueblos; a distinguished exhibit. Locally called "El Rito"	Agriculture
Capulin Mountain	New Mexico	1916	681	A perfect cinder cone	Interior
Old Kasaan	Alaska	1916	38	Abandoned Indian village with good totem poles	Agriculture
Versedrye	North Dakota	1917	253	Crowhigh Butte, from which white men first saw country west of Missouri River	Interior
Casa Grande	Arizona	1918	480	Remarkable prehistoric ruin, originally classified as a National Park in 1889	Interior
Katmai	Alaska	1918	1,088,000	Recently exploded volcano of unusual scenic and scientific interest; Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. Important	Interior
Scotts Bluff	Nebraska	1919	2,063	Landmark of early transcontinental travel	Interior
Yucca House	Colorado	1919	10	Ruin of prehistoric pueblo	Interior
Lehman Caves	Nevada	1922	593	Limestone caves	Agriculture
Timpanogos Cave	Utah	1922	250	Limestone cave	Agriculture
Fossil Cycad	South Dakota	1922	320	Rich deposits of plant fossils for future excavation	Interior
Antec Ruin	New Mexico	1923	5	Restored prehistoric pueblo of 500 rooms	Interior
Mound City Group	Ohio	1923	57	Prehistoric Indian Mounds within Camp Sherman Military Reserve	War
Hovenweep	Utah-Colorado	1923	286	Prehistoric towers, pueblos and cliff dwellings	Interior
Pipe Spring	Arizona	1923	40	Refuge against Indians. Important early Mormon station. Only pure water for miles	Interior
Bryce Canyon	Utah	1923	7000	Niche in the Pink Cliff filled with intricately eroded minarets gorgeously colored	Agriculture

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